

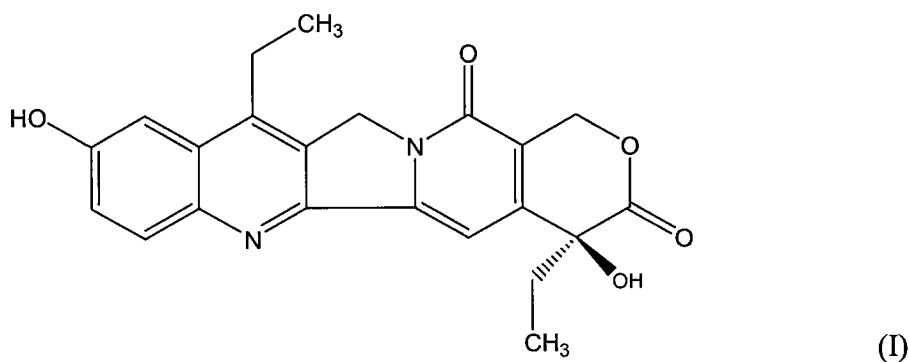
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

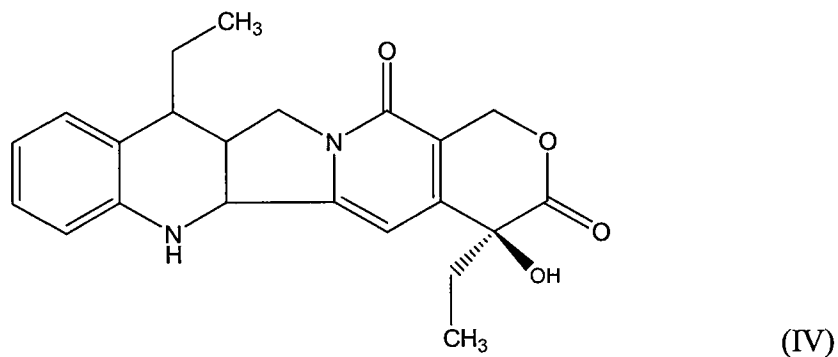
Listing of Claims:

1.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of manufacturing~~ A process for the preparation
of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxy-camptothecin of formula I



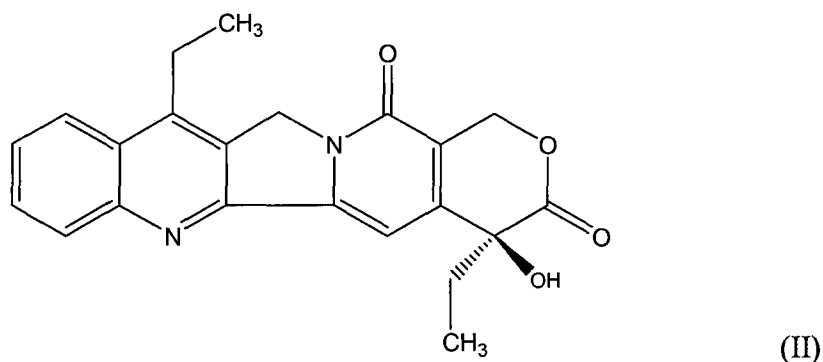
characterized in that comprising oxidizing 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin
tetrahydrocamptothecin of formula IV



~~is oxidized~~ with iodobenzene diacetate in acetic acid and ~~in the presence of water under the~~
~~conditions consisting in that iodobenzene diacetate is used in an amount of 0.99 to 1.85 mol per 1~~
~~mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin, acetic acid is used in an amount of 668 to 1001~~
~~mol per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin and the oxidation is carried out at a~~

~~temperature from 15 to 30°C for 5 to 30 minutes. water, wherein the amount of acetic acid is 668 to 1001 mol per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin or 1130 mol per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin, and the oxidation is carried out for 5 to 30 minutes.~~

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 23, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the starting 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin is obtained by hydrogenation of 7-ethylcamptothecin of formula II



in a saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acid having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, using hydrogen in the presence of a hydrogenation catalyst and a sulfur compound that partly deactivates the hydrogenation catalyst.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to 24, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the saturated aliphatic acid is formic acid, acetic acid or trifluoroacetic acid.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 25, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ acetic acid is used in an amount of 791 to 1187 mol, ~~preferably 890 to 1088 ml,~~ per 1 mol of 7-ethylcamptothecin.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the sulfur compound that partly deactivates the hydrogenation catalyst is dimethyl ~~sulfoxide~~sulfoxide.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 27, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ dimethyl sulfoxide is used in an amount of 0.18 to 0.33 ~~mol~~, preferably 0.23 to 0.28 ~~ml~~, per 1 mol of 7-ethylcamptothecin.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the hydrogenation catalyst is a noble metal.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to ~~claim 7~~claim 29, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the noble metal is platinum.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to ~~claim 8~~claim 24, ~~characterized in that wherein the hydrogenation catalyst is~~ platinum ~~is used~~ on an activated carbon or aluminum oxide carrier.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to ~~claim 9~~claim 31, ~~characterized in that wherein the~~ platinum is used in an amount of 0.018 to 0.027 mol, preferably 0.020 to 0.025 mol, per 1 mol of 7-ethylcamptothecin, in the form of a hydrogenation catalyst, formed by platinum on an activated carbon with a platinum content 5%.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the hydrogenation is carried out at a pressure from 0.3 to 0.7 Mpa, preferably at a ~~pressure fro~~ 0.4 to 0.6 Mpa.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 33, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the hydrogenation is carried out at a temperature from 45 to 85°C, preferably at 58 to 72°C.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 33, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the hydrogenation is carried out for 24 to 70 hours, preferably for 40 to 50 hours.

36. (New) The process according to claim 23 wherein the amount of iodobenzene diacetate used is 0.99 mol to 1.9 mol per mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin.

37. (New) The process according to claim 23 wherein the oxidation is carried out at a temperature ranging from 15 to 30°C.